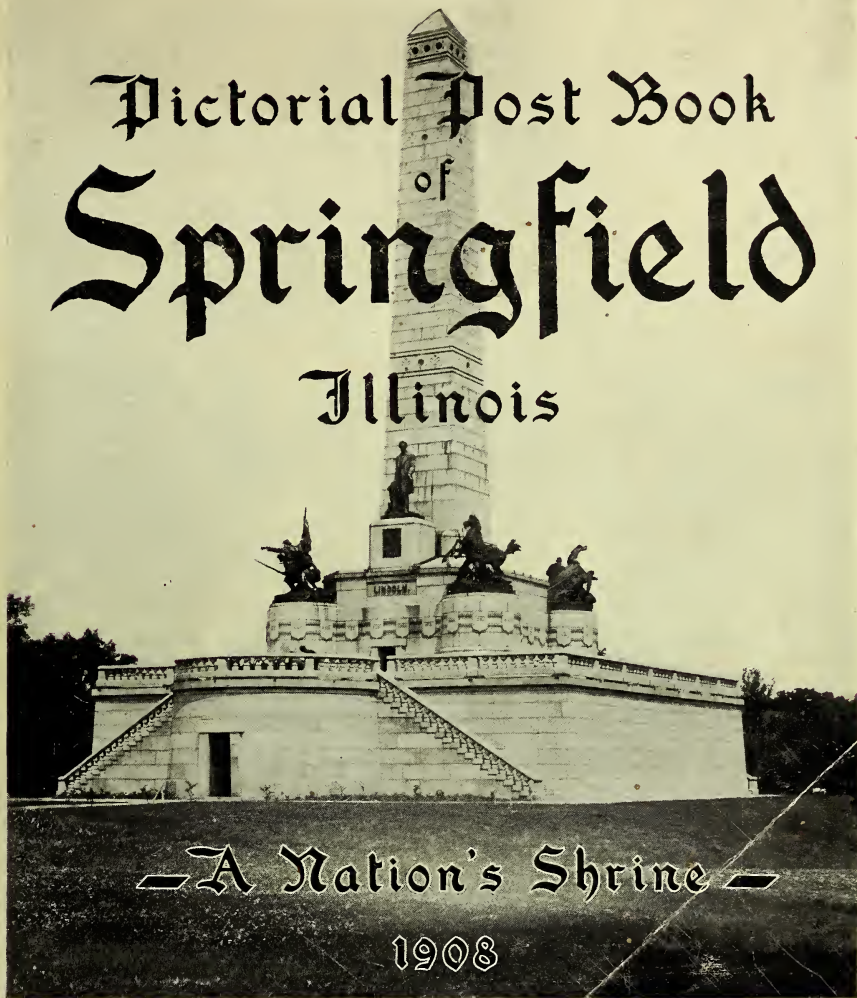


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Persinger's
Pictorial Post Book
of
Springfield
Illinois



THE LINCOLN MONUMENT AND THE LINCOLN HOME.



THE CITY HALL.



FEDERAL AND POSTOFFICE BUILDING.
(Weather Bureau building and city hall in the distance.)



Springfield, Illinois



SPRINGFIELD stands distinctly in the forefront among the capital cities of the American States as the historic home of the first national martyr and the mausoleum of his patriotically idolized ashes—President Abraham Lincoln, who saved the Union but lost his life therefor—and as the twentieth century mecca of over 50,000 annual visitors, a thousand or more of them foreigners, to his illustrious humble abode and mournful monument. Independently of these, however, Springfield is physically and promisingly attractive and inspiring, beautifully situated and builded, and embowered like a park or some ancient English vast preserve, with its gloriously forested Washington and Lincoln parks, Camp Lincoln, and Oak Ridge cemetery exceeding one hundred acres; the splendid statehouse and governor's mansion in spacious, groomed grounds; the old capitol courthouse and encircling public strand; the stately armory-arsenal coliseum; the new \$500,000 State supreme courthouse; the imposing high school in a square; the city hall; the Carnegie-Lincoln library; the federal and weather-bureau buildings; the just completing \$150,000 Y. M. C. A. edifice, and other innumerable public features eloquently and substantially signifying the admirable devotion and vigor of current Spring-



THE BASE OF THE LINCOLN MONUMENT IN CLOSE DETAIL.
(Statues of Lincoln, the artillery, infantry and cavalry.)

field citizenship in behalf of capital city posterity. Indeed the municipal espionage and exaction of Springfield are such that everything of the general type seems exceptionally well done, responding to strictest inspection and attractively impressing the prospecting or casual visitor. The solidly built public square mart radiates east, west, north and south for several miles in either direction, lined with smartly to-date stores, shops, offices, fine churches and schools, hotels and flats, etc., into inviting tree-arcaded avenues of beautiful homes, many of them palaces, and the great majority owned by their envied occupants. Springfield is reputed to be one of the wealthiest American cities per capita and emphasizingly corroborated that renown during the recent financial disturbance, which it passed through serenely without a failure of any kind or the appearance of a single bank certificate. The average twentieth-century Springfielder is well able to carefully and completely educate his progeny and polish with travel, with the refining result that the Illinois capital city society of the period ranks with that of ultra Chicago. Springfield society makes a decidedly metropolitan showing to the discriminating visitor at the State mansion functions, the exclusive entertaining homes and clubs, the theaters and churches, and in the elect reservations at the fair, camp, conventions and festivals.

THE preëminent first attractions for visitors are, of course, the hallowed Lincoln home and obelisk shrines. The former stands in the heart of the older portion of the city, at Eighth and Jackson streets, precisely the same practically as everything was when, in 1860, the humble and awkward but divine-born young statesman was therein notified of his election to the Presidency of the United States!

This was the only piece of realty that Lincoln ever owned, and the house, his humble home from 1844 to 1865, wherein his children were born and bred. Now it is the State's property and a nation's shrine, in charge of a niece of Mrs. Lincoln and her daughter, and free to the visiting world, its rooms filled with precious Lincoln heirlooms, including the martyr's goose-quill pen, one of his sere and yellow letters, a spoke from his carriage, a remnant of the parlor carpet, a lock of Mrs. Lincoln's hair, etc. It is almost inconceivable that in 1844 Springfield proper was treeless, without walks, paving, gas, or a railroad, and that the telegraph, telephone, typewriter and other common modern conveniences were absolutely undreamed of. The Lincoln monument stands on the highest eminence in the natural park of beautiful Oak Ridge north of the city, a splendid specimen of granite and marble architecture, 121 feet high, and costing to date nearly \$500,000, having been entirely rebuilt in 1900-01. All Presidents since 1865, excepting Cleveland, have visited and registered at the monument, the registers running back forty-three years and containing millions of names. Reader, is *yours* there?

WHEN the Lincoln monument was eternally rebuilt in 1900-1, by the Culver Company at a cost of over \$100,000, it is not generally known that the martyr's son, President Robert Lincoln of the Pullman Company, Chicago, quietly visited the contractor and paid him \$1,000 extra to inter the actual remains in solid steel and cement twenty feet below the towering monument, where even the Japs who took Port Arthur would be unable to extricate it. The wreath-covered casket in the grilled sepulchre, yearly perused by thousands with uncovered heads and moist eyes, would therefore yield nothing to ghouls who might attempt to seize the illustrious ashes for national ransom.

THE select social life of Springfield is richly reflected in the accompanying beautifully illustrated abodes of the executive and the several prominent families named in connection therewith. The charming home of the Van Cleaves, on Fourth and Allen streets, was originally owned by a son of the distinguished pioneer Governor Cook, after whom Cook county was named. The Spanish-styled villa of Mrs. Dana, on Fourth street, is as distinct a Springfield feature as is Chicago's Palmer castle on the exclusive Lake Shore Drive. Senator Logan Hay has introduced the stately Southern colonial manor on Grand avenue south, overlooking Washington park. The granite home of Col. Henry Davis, on Fifth street, with its enclosing stone terrace, is strikingly suggestive of a Bellevue villa in ultra Newport spa. Assuredly the Springfielders know how to live and entertain. The Sangamon on Capitol avenue between Fifth and Sixth and the Country Club five miles southwest of the city, comprise the club meccas of Springfield. The Sangamon has an annex on the State fair grounds in reserved position with embowered piazzas facing the turf circle. The very exclusive Country Club, illustrated, occupies a \$50,000 estate and structure with metropolitan appointments and service, and unfurls one of the most ideal golf courses in the State.

ALTHOUGH the capital of a prairie State, Springfield is embowered and fringed by beautiful forests, Washington and Lincoln Parks, Camp Lincoln, and Oak Ridge, all resembling English preserves rather than the plains, and looking from the public square south the visitor derives the impression that Capitol avenue is the beginning of a down-town park. The twentieth-century city is spreading overwhelmingly southwest and transforming realty in that direction into fabulous valuations.

SPRINGFIELD is adorned with sixty churches and missions—averaging a house of worship for nearly every thousand of its population—which range from the imposing new Second Presbyterian of stone, tile and mosaics, and costing over \$100,000, to the modest structures in the suburbs. The First Methodist on Fifth at Capitol avenue, built in 1884, interiorly burned and reconstructed in 1907, is a renowned Illinois edifice of worship. It was in the old and now reminiscent Second Presbyterian on the northwest corner of Fourth and Monroe streets that the State legislature met during the building of the capitol.

SPRINGFIELD possesses the greatest drawing-card in Illinois—the permanent State fair grounds—immediately north of the city, a timbered, rolling tract of 156 acres, attractively grouped with modern, substantial, fireproof exposition buildings, a pavilion amphitheater and a full-mile regulation race-track, the great estate representing a total investment of approximately \$1,000,000 to date and standing without a parallel in American Statedom. The imposing main building supports the colossal dome from the World's Fair horticultural structure, Chicago, 1893, purchased by the State in 1894 and dedicated to the Illinois Agricultural Association when the fair was permanently located at Springfield that year. The mammoth steel and glass dome is the largest in the world, requiring a building 222 by 222 feet in dimensions, and that will shelter 100,000 people. The 1908 State fair is scheduled for the week of September 25-October 2, when the attempt will be made to eclipse its mile-track world-record of 2:00 1-2. Springfield city celebrates the week of the State fair with a nightly illuminated public square, festival and street-free vaudeville program that rival the famous New Orleans Mardi Gras or the St. Louis Veiled Prophet visitations.

THE Tiffany-designed mausoleum of ex-Governor John R. Tanner, erected by popular State subscriptions, stands in beautiful Oak Ridge cemetery not a thousand feet from the Lincoln obelisk, and is one of the most artistic and substantial ever erected in this country. It is to be dedicated the coming May, and the program of exercises will probably attract one of the largest State assemblages Springfield has entertained in years. Mrs. Tanner resides in a beautiful home in Springfield, and the lamented Governor's son is a Chicagoan.



THE GOVERNOR AND A STATE MILITIA PARTY IN BEAUTIFUL CAMP LINCOLN.



A GLIMPSE IN BEAUTIFUL WASHINGTON PARK.



SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL.



SPRINGFIELD ODD FELLOWS BUILDING.



THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION.



A TYPICAL VIEW IN THE RESIDENCE SECTION.
(Taken from the George H. Helmle terrace.)



RESIDENCE OF COL. HENRY DAVIS.



SOUTH FRONT OF THE LOGAN HAY RESIDENCE.



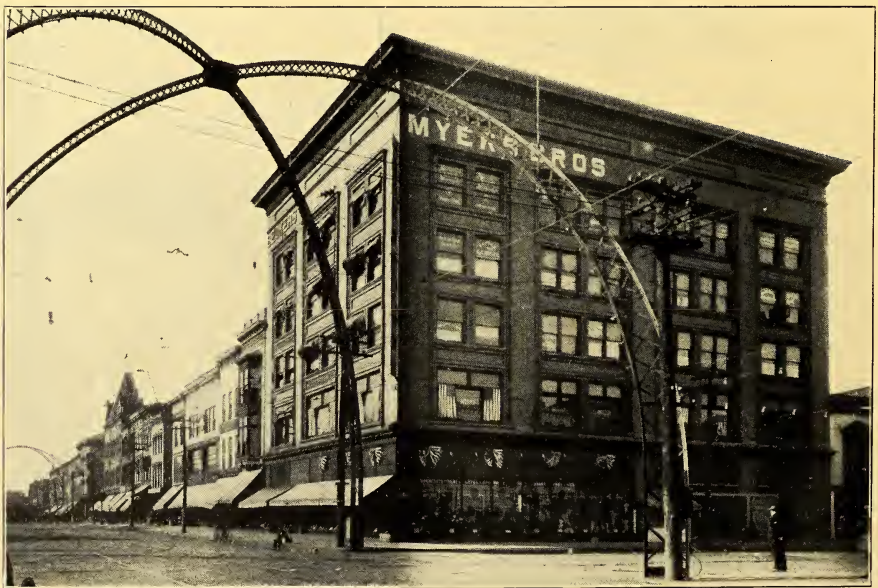
RESIDENCE OF COL. JAS. R. B. VAN CLEAVE.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. SUSAN LAWRENCE DANA.



THE PUBLIC SQUARE AND COURTHOUSE.



THE WEST SIDE OF THE PUBLIC SQUARE TO DATE.



ILLINOIS STATE CAPITOL.



THE EAST SIDE OF THE PUBLIC SQUARE TO DATE.



THE SPRINGFIELD CARNEGIE-LINCOLN LIBRARY.



THE ARMORY AND STATE CONVENTION COLISEUM.
(Seating 10,000.)



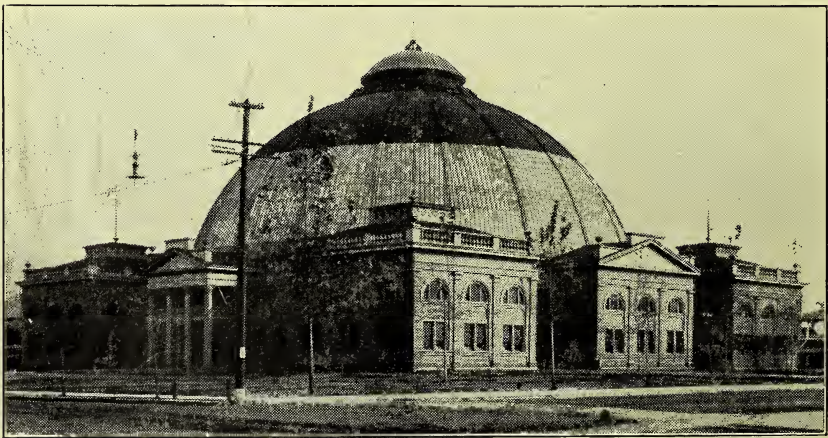
OAK RIDGE MAUSOLEUM OF THE LATE GOVERNOR TANNER.
(Erected by popular State subscriptions.)



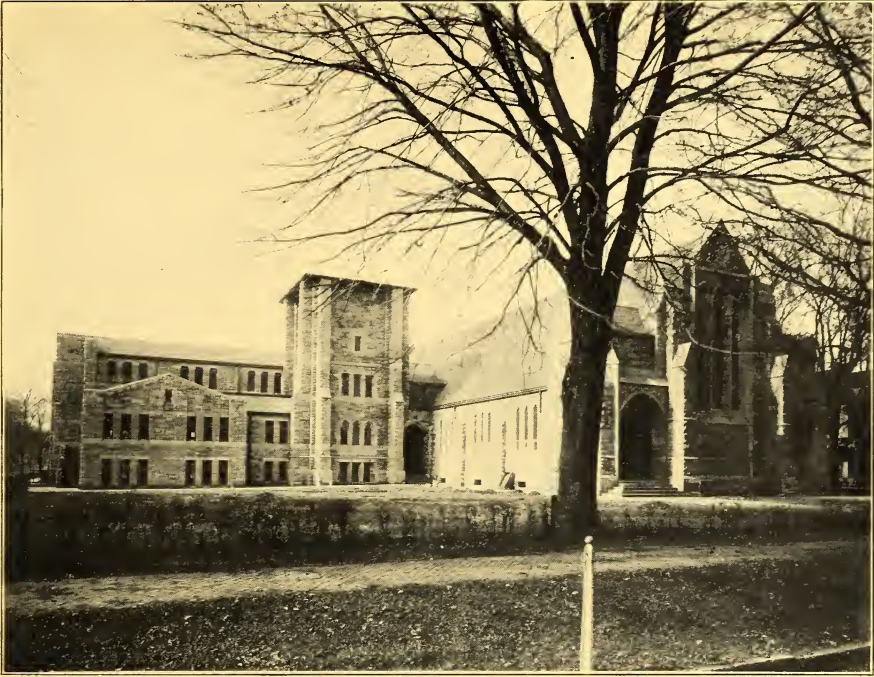
THE SPRINGFIELD COUNTRY CLUB.



THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH.



THE COLOSSAL DOME BUILDING AT THE STATE FAIR.



THE NEW SECOND PRESBYTERIAN \$100,000 CHURCH.



THE NEW STATE SUPREME COURT BUILDING, COSTING \$500,000.



THE LINCOLN BANK BUILDING AND MONROE STREET WEST.



THE ST. NICHOLAS HOTEL.
(John H. McCreery, Prop.)

SPRINGFIELD became the third capital of Illinois in 1839 when it was merely a prairie hamlet hugging the present public square, that contains the original Springfield capital—now the courthouse—raised and rebuilt in 1900. The splendid new Statehouse was completed in 1871 at a cost of \$4,000,000, and to date represents \$5,000,000. It is one of the most stately and substantial in the American galaxy. The Governor's mansion, rebuilt in 1896, occupies a beautiful half-square on Jackson between Third and Fourth streets, two blocks from the commanding capitol.

THE last directory discloses that Springfield is advancing in population at the rate of approximately 5,000 a year, the annual volume now requiring over 1,000 pages. The 1908 directory will undoubtedly total 75,000, as the city is spreading magically and unprecedentedly. Besides the stately high school sixteen graded schools are necessary to accommodate the nearly 8,000 Springfield scholars, who require division superintendents and 200 teachers.

It is rare that Springfield goes outside its own limits for architectural or constructive genius. The executive mansion, the First Methodist church and the Col. Henry Davis residence are notable samples of the skill and taste of Mr. George H. Helmle, the prominent resident architect, while the fame of the Culver Construction Company is imperishably inscribed in the Lincoln and Tanner monuments, the elevated courthouse, the enlarged Federal building and postoffice, the towering city hall, the arsenal and library, the new Second Presbyterian church, Y. M. C. A., and the distinct Illinois battle monuments at Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Shiloh and Vicksburg. The Culver stone, marble, mosaic and tile plant covers a Springfield square, and is one of the State's famed features.

SPRINGFIELD is capably served by four of the best dailies in the State—the morning *Journal*, established in 1831; the morning *Register*, 1836; and the evening *News and Record*, all occupying their own buildings and to-date plants, with envied State, county and city sinecures incidental to the capital and its richly endowed environs of the second great commonwealth in the Union.

CAMP LINCOLN every July teems with the State militia in field raiment and arms for warfare practice, led by detailed regulars, the educating maneuvers attracting thousands of visitors. A new militia troop arrives weekly, exchanging camp with its predecessor, the summer assemblies lasting throughout the month. Camp Lincoln is a glorious natural park.

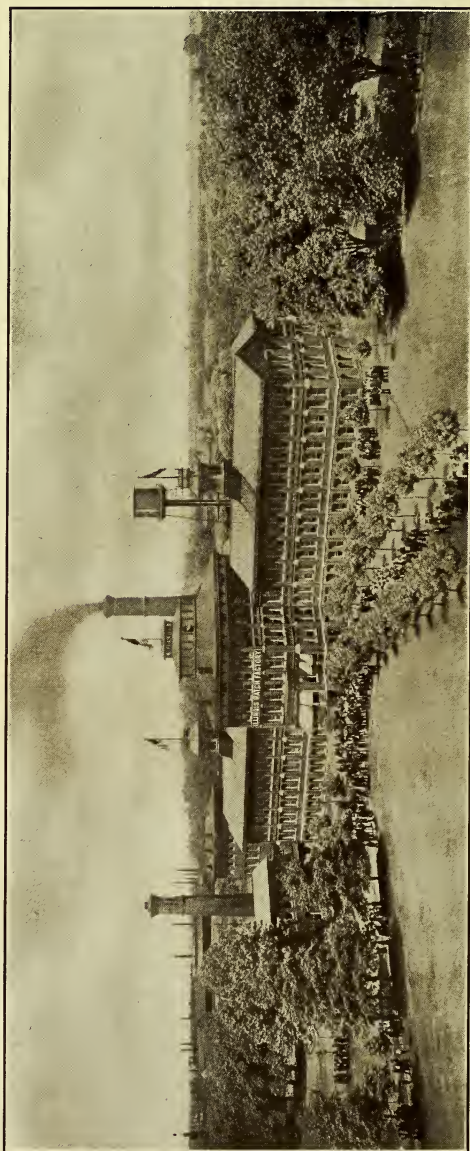
SPRINGFIELD is commandingly seen in the passing by the Chicago & Alton tourists who may be unable to avail themselves of the stop-over privilege, the road piercing the heart of the city north and south, with a metropolitan station on Third street between Jefferson and Washington, one block from the public square east, and the same distance west from the new Statehouse on Capitol avenue viaduct. Springfield is said to rank second only to Chicago in the passenger patronage accorded the Chicago & Alton system, exceeding even Kansas City in that distinction. The Alton & Sangamon originally reached Springfield from Alton in 1853. The Bloomington extension—built as the Chicago & Mississippi—followed in 1854, Joliet was reached in 1856, and Chicago in 1857—about fifty years ago. The State legislature in 1855 officially named the system the "Chicago, Alton & St. Louis." For many years since it has been legally known as the "Chicago & Alton," and popularly as simply the "Alton." The service is of the highest American or world standard, the famous "Alton Limited" being one of the handsomest trains in existence.

SPRINGFIELD possesses the reputation of having the most popular commercial hotel in the State in the St. Nicholas—illustrated—in the heart of the capital city, adjacent to and connecting with the Alton station premises through the Silas annex. The capacity patronage maintained distinctly evidences that liberal, progressive management and popular prices appeal to the traveling public. The St. Nicholas is conducted on the American plan at \$2.50 a day or with bath at \$3. The Hotel Silas annex, directly across the street, is under the same management but on the European plan, at \$1.50 with bath, \$1 and 75 cents a day.

PERSINGER'S PICTORIAL POST-BOOK souvenir of Springfield—realistically reviewing every cardinal feature of the Illinois capital city as it appears in 1908—will increase in value with age and become a souvenir indeed, owing to the extraordinary momentum Springfield has attained and is maintaining financially, physically and artistically, particularly since 1900. Computing its remarkable achievements from 1839 to 1908, its future is well-nigh incomprehensible. The patriotically optimistic are sanguine of 250,000 population before 1939, an epoch that Springfield is bound to memorably celebrate. It can be imagined what an amazing contrast a 1908 souvenir will disclose in less than twenty years hence, and the purchaser of this pictorial post-book of finest possible current illustration and letterpress will not require importunation to jealously preserve it. It is on sale at 10 cents a copy by every Springfield newsdealer and the leading newsdealers of the State, otherwise copies may be obtained direct from the publisher.

H. R. PERSINGER, PUBLISHER, 130 SHERMAN STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

If additional copies are desired and your newsdealer is unsupplied, send 10 cents in stamps per copy to the publisher; return postage free.



PLANT AND PARK OF THE ILLINOIS WATCH COMPANY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

One of the largest and best equipped establishments in the world for the manufacturing of high-grade timepieces, requiring over eight hundred employees who manufacture five hundred watch movements every working-day. A large portion of the product of this factory is of railroad grade movements, that is: watches that are made to meet the exacting requirements of railway service or where accurate time is a necessity—the Bunn, the Bunn Special and the Sangamo movement, that are especially constructed for such service. The smaller thin model 12 sizes for men and the very small 0 size for women are also manufactured by this company.



FRANKLIN LIFE BUILDING.
(Home office of the Franklin Life Insurance Company.)

THE largest financial institution in Springfield is The Franklin Life Insurance Company. It was organized in 1884, and is the only legal reserve life insurance company having its home office in the city. The Franklin Life is governed by the provision of the celebrated Registration and Deposit Law of Illinois, which requires that every policy issued by it shall be registered in the State Insurance Department and that approved securities equal to the entire legal reserve of all its outstanding policies shall be deposited with and held in trust by the said department. The company has its headquarters in the Franklin Life building — corner of Monroe and Fifth streets — occupying the second and third floors. This was the first modern office building erected in Springfield.

SPRINGFIELD is famous the world around as the home of the Illinois Watch Company. The watches produced by this company are second to none. Nearly two millions of their movements are now in use, and the demand for them constantly increases — beyond the capacity of the company to keep pace with it. From a small beginning in 1870 the company has steadily grown until now its manufacturing plant is one of the most complete and best equipped in the world. The factory of the Illinois Watch Company is located in the center of a beautiful private park of fourteen acres, in the north part of the city of Springfield. It is easily accessible to visitors by electric street cars, and many thousands of people are shown the interesting process of watch making every year. From the first the slogan of the Illinois Watch Company has been quality rather than quantity, and from it they have never varied. Therefore it naturally follows that high grades of the Illinois Watch Company are the acknowledged standards of efficiency in America, which means the world, for America leads the world.



PASSENGER STATION, SPRINGFIELD.

Chicago & Alton Railroad

**“The
Only
Way”**



**TO
Chicago**

Six trains a day, including the famous Alton Limited — handsomest in the world.

**TO
St. Louis**

Six trains a day — the short line.

**TO
Kansas City**

New short route via Air Line, now open. Take the “Hummer,” the train that runs ahead of the rest.

**TO
Peoria**

Short line. Two through trains daily.

D. G. CAMPBELL
Passenger and Ticket Agent

R. A. GUEST
City Passenger Agent

W. H. ABEL
Division Passenger Agent